Message Text

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INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-01 INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 MCT-01 SY-05 IO-13 /077 W
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R 031353Z JUN 77

FM AMEMBASSY STOCKHOLM

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 0752

INFO AMEMBASSY BERN

AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN

AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE

AMEMBASSY HELSINKI

AMEMBASSY MADRID

AMEMBASSY OSLO

AMEMBASSY REYKJAVIK

AMEMBASSY VIENNA

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE STOCKHOLM 2355

E.O. 11652: N/A TAGS: PFOR SP SW

SUBJ: SWEDISH GOVERMENT DECLINES TO ACCEPT RELEASED BASQUE PRISONERS

- 1. BEGIN UNCLASSIFIED: SWEDISH PRESS REPORTS JUNE 2 THAT, ACCORDING TO MFA SPOKESMAN, SWEDEN WILL NOT GRANT ASYLUM TO ANY OF THE 19 BASQUE PRISONERS WHO ARE TO BE DEPORTED FROM SPAIN. THE SPOKESMAN TOLD REPORTERS THAT SPAIN HAS ASKED THE GOS IF IT IS WILLING TO GRANT ASYLUM TO THE BASQUES, AND THE GOS HAS REPLIED THAT, "WE CANNOT COOPERATE IN REACHING A SOLUTION WHICH GUARANTEES THE PERSONS IN QUESTION ENTRY INTO SWEDEN AND RESIDENCE HERE."
- 2. ACCORDING TO SPANISH GOVERMENT SOURCES, THE PRESS REPORT CONTINUES, INQUIRES HAVE ALSO BEEN MADE IN FINLAND, NORWAY, LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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DENMARK, HOLLAND, AUSTRIA AND SWITZERLAND. NORWAY HAS REPORTEDLY AGREED TO ACCEPT THREE OF THE 19, AND DENMARK WILL TAKE A DECISION WITHIN A FEW DAYS.
END UNCLASSIFIED

3. BEGIN LIMITED OFFICIAL USE: IN RECENT MONTHS THE GOS HAS SUFFERED A SERIES OF PROBLEMS INVOLVING POLITICALLY-ORIENTED

IMMIGRANTS, THE MOST SERIOUS BEING THE INVOLVEMENT OF A NUMBER OF POLITICAL EXILES IN A TERRORIST PLOT TO KIDNAP A FORMER GOS MINISTER, WHICH RESULTED IN THEIR EXPULSION FROM SWEDEN. DESPITE GOVERMENT CLAIMS THAT THIS EPISODE AND OTHER TROUBLES INVOLVING FOREIGNERS HERE WOULD NOT LEAD TO ANY RESTRICTIVE CHANGE IN SWEDISH IMMIGRATION OR REFUGEE POLICY, THE GOS RESPONSE TO THE SPANISH INQUIRY MAY BE AN INDICATION THAT THE GOVERMENT IS CONSIDERING MORE CAREFULLY BEFORE ACCEPTING REFUGEES OR EXILES WHO MIGHT CREATE POLITICAL TROUBLE INSIDE SWEDEN.

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Message Attributes

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Disposition Event:
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